SOUTH AFRICAN RADIO LEAGUE

SARL NEWS SUNDAY 17 AUGUST 2003

You are listening to Amateur Radio Station ZS6SRL of the South African Radio League, the National society for Amateur Radio in South Africa, with a news bulletin that is broadcast every Sunday at 08:15 Central Africa Time (CAT) in Afrikaans and at 08:30 CAT in English.

This bulletin is also available on the website of the SARL at www.sarl.org.za and on packet bulletin boards.

In the news today:

RUSTENBURG DOES IT AGAIN

PRETORIA ARC PUTS OUT A CHALLENGES

INTECNET TO EXAMINE POWER LINE COMMUNICATION

CLUB INFORMATION REQUESTED

Stay tuned for more details on these and other news items.

Visit the SARL Web site or call the SARL office which is open on weekdays from 09:00 to 13:00 at 011 675 2393 for details on how to join, book sales and all related amateur radio activities.

SARL NEWS invites clubs and individuals to submit news items of interest to amateurs on the web site of the SARL, which is www.sarl.org.za/newsinbox.asp not later than the Thursday preceding the bulletin date. It would be appreciated if you could do it in both Afrikaans and English.

You are tuned to ZS6SRL.

The news follows in detail:

RUSTENBURG DOES IT AGAIN

The Rustenburg branch of the SARL (Branch no 1) has increased their repeater coverage by introducing a simplex link between Rustenburg and Thabazimbi on 145,325 MHz. Effectively this now enables amateurs from as far a field as Botswana to make contact with locals on two meter. A22TL has in fact already started making use of this facility and now regularly reports in to the local news bulletin on Wednesday evenings at 19:00. It is with technical expertise like this, where amateurs from as far as Ellisras can reach Rustenburg, that the Rustenburg branch shows its commitment to cutting edge technology. We thank Henry ZS6IIX and Eugene ZR6CEN for their hard work in this respect.

PRETORIA ARC PUTS OUT A CHALLENGES

The Pretoria Amateur Radio Club has issued a challenge to other Branches and Clubs to try and beat them for top honours in the 2003 SARL HF Contests. The Phone contest is past and on Sunday 31 August the SARL HF CW Contest

will be held. The Pretoria ARC says you must get your morse key out for this contest. The activity starts at 14:30 with activity on 20, 40 and 80 metres. The rules can be found on the SARL website at www.sarl.org.za and will be e-mailed with the next HF Newsletter. Are you going to take up the challenge?

DXCC ANNUAL LISTING

The ARRL DXCC Desk says the deadline to submit applications for the 2003 DXCC Annual List is rapidly approaching. Applications must be postmarked no later than 30 September 2003. For more information, contact DXCC Manager Bill More NC1L at dxcc@arrl.org or locally Tjerk ZS6P at zs6p@iafrica.com.

NEXT INTECNET 2003 TO EXAMINE POWER LINE COMMUNICATION

The demand for broadband communication and inexpensive access to high speed Internet is growing fast and has encouraged engineers to develop new solutions such as ADSL and Broadband Power Line Communication. ADSL operates on ordinary copper telephone cables while BPLC or PLC runs on the electricity grid. Research has shown that ADSL creates little or no interference to radio communications but that BPLC just about destroys communications on most of the HF spectrum.

Join the discussion on the next SARL Intecnet 2003. The programme will be on the air on Sunday 31 August at 19:00 CAT and will take an in-depth look at the looming problems. Various technologies and their impact on radio communication will be discussed and the actions taken by the IARU and national amateur radio societies to prevent wide scale implementation will be reviewed. The programme will end with a discussion on what action South Africans should take to prevent introduction of BPLC.

Clubs and branches wishing to link their repeaters to the Intecnet network are invited to email requests to armi@sarl.org.za. Please supply coverage details of the repeater, frequency and the telephone number to be linked to the Telkom Teleconference Centre.

SARL TOP BAND CERTIFICATE

The Top Band Certificate is sponsored by the SARL and its aim is to encourage more 160 m QSO's with southern African countries. South African stations must submit proof of having contacted at least six different southern African call areas, of which five must be in the Republic of South Africa; the sixth contact can be from 3DA, 7P or A2.

All contacts after 1 January 1960 are valid for this award and contacts must be established in the range of 1 800 to 2 000 kHz. ZS amateurs can transmit between 1 810 and 1 850 kHz. Endorsements for single modes can be requested. South African applicants should send QSL cards, a list of contact details and a handling and postage charge of R 10,00. This award is free to members of the South African Radio League. Your application should be addressed to The

Awards Manager, South African Radio League, PO Box 1721, Strubensvallei, 1735 and e-mail enquiries can be directed to zs6p@iafrica.com.

Of the 27 certificates issued until February 2003 only 5 have gone to South African stations.

REQUEST TO CLUBS FOR INFORMATION

The SARL is in the process of updating the database of information on clubs and branches and it is requested that club and branch secretaries please provide the following information by return email to zs6phd@mweb.co.za:

Name of Club or Branch; Total number of Club or branch members; Estimated number of club members who are SARL members; Current club annual subscription.

Please could you also provide feedback on your preference in regard to receiving communication in PDF file format.

CLUB NEWS

Members of the Bloemfontein Radio Amateur Club provided radio communication for the 2003 Motorpics Mountain Trial, which was run in the Barkly East, Lady Grey and Aliwal North districts yesterday 16 August 2003. It was the 22nd running of the rally.

The Bloemfontein RAC will be setting up a field station and amateur radio display at the Langenhoven Park Farmer's Market on Saturday 23 August 2003. The club call sign ZS4BFN will be on the air on 40 and 20 metres as well as locally on 2 metres. The club has obtained a stand at the market and will regularly be showing amateur radio to the public of Bloemfontein.

DATES TO REMEMBER

16/17 August: The International Lighthouse and Lightship Weekend, information on the SARL website at www.sarl.org.za.

18 August: Closing date for logs for the 2003 SARL HF phone contest. E-mail to contests@sarl.org.za or send by mail to the NARC.

31 August. 2003 HF CW Contest; 31 August SARL Intecnet on Power Line Communications.

20/21 September. The second leg of the SARL VHF/UHF Contest.

This then brings us to the end of today's bulletin, which was compiled by Dennis ZS4BS and read by …….from…… as a service to radio amateurs, short wave listeners and electronic enthusiasts.

The SARL invites you to listen to Amateur Radio Mirror International on 17 815, 9 750, and 7 082 kHz and 145,625 MHz in East London, 145,650 in Durban 145,750 MHz in Pretoria and 438,800 in the Sandton area. A repeat broadcast can be heard on Mondays at 21:00 CAT on 3 215 kHz.

ARMI is sponsored by Telkom and Sentech.

You have been listening to ZS6SRL, thank you for joining us. Also many thanks to those persons who supply news for our bulletins and the amateurs who relay the bulletins so regularly.

Goodbye everyone.